

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The present response is submitted to place the present application in condition for allowance based on the indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action.

Specifically, in the Office Action claims 24 and 25 are allowed and claim 27 was objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. That indication of the allowable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged. The only rejection in the Office Action was to claim 26.

By the present response claim 26 is canceled without prejudice and claim 27 is amended to be rewritten in independent form, to thereby recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action.

Thereby, by the present amendment only allowable claims 24, 25, and 27 are pending in this application.

As only allowable claims are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Surinder Sachar

Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)
SNS/rac